

From: [Wrigley, Deborah \(KTRK-TV\)](#)
To: [Gray, David](#)
Subject: Re: Requesting information on Highlands Superfund site
Date: Friday, September 29, 2017 2:37:30 PM

David- thanks for your response. Abc indicated there was sampling that showed dioxin levels to be extremely high- but is that related to San Jacinto superfund site?

Also- did the concrete cover fail?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 29, 2017, at 1:43 PM, Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is a link to our site summary for Highlands based on preliminary data. Your statement is incorrect. We have not found those problems here.

I have also included our clarification to FEMA's incorrect report regarding orphan containers which did not come from Superfund sites.

David

Highlands Acid Pits UPDATED 9/16 [here](#).

Greetings,

It appears that FEMA combined information from our original submission in its summary release on Friday that has created some confusion in reporting. I wanted to share this clarification with you.

We wrote:

***Hurricane Harvey Texas Response and Recovery
EPA and TCEQ First 30 Days Roll-Up of Actions (EPA fully integrated with
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in Unified Command to support
these actions.)***

- *Drinking Water Assessments:*
 - *625 on-site drinking water assessments completed*
- *Waste Water Assessments:*
 - *441 on-site waste water assessments completed*
- *517 orphan containers recovered for proper storage*
- *43 National Priorities List Superfund Sites assessments completed*

FEMA wrote:

*The **Environmental Protection Agency** (EPA), working with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, completed 625 drinking water assessments and 441 waste water assessments. The agency conducted assessments of 43 Superfund sites and recovered 517 containers of unidentified, potentially hazardous material.*

You can read our latest update from Friday Sept 22 on our website [atwww.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey](http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey). We have also released the latest on Superfund sites and many individual site summaries.

Regarding orphan containers. EPA and our response partners have been collecting containers orphaned after the hurricane. We have been reporting these activities. Here is a copy of that update. These are not related to Superfund clean ups.

Reconnaissance/Orphan Containers: The TCEQ continues to lead in monitoring facilities that have reported spills. Unified Command has completed reconnaissance activities associated with hurricane impacts. Orphan containers, which include drums and tanks, found floating in or washed up near waterways continue to be gathered, sorted and grouped by type, prior to shipping them off for safe, proper treatment and disposal. All branches of the Unified Command have collected over 980 orphan containers. The Unified Command is preparing collected oil and hazardous materials for proper disposal. Disposal should be completed within the next three weeks. USCG and Texas General Land Office will continue to complete Vessel Recovery activities.

Best,

David

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 29, 2017, at 12:53 PM, Wrigley, Deborah (KTRK-TV)
<Deborah.Wrigley@abc.com> wrote:

My name is Deborah Wrigley, I'm a reporter with channel 13. We're reporting on the EPA findings on the highlands acid waste pits and dangerous dioxin levels. Would you please send me the testing results and how many barrels of waste were found three of the containment area?

Sent from my iPhone